

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1-23. (Canceled)

24. (New) A method of identifying products that inhibit an ATP-dependent DNA relaxing reaction comprising contacting a test sample with a topoisomerase IV, wherein the topoisomerase IV is capable of being obtained from the expression of a nucleotide sequence chosen from:

(a) all or part of the gr1A gene (SEQ ID NO:4) or all or part of the gr1B gene (SEQ ID NO:6);  
(b) sequences hybridizing with all or part of the gr1A gene (SEQ ID NO:4) or gr1B gene (SEQ ID NO:6) that encode a subunit of a topoisomerase IV; and  
(c) sequences derived from the sequences of (a) or (b) because of the degeneracy of the genetic code; and  
wherein the topoisomerase IV exhibits the enzymatic activity of Gr1A (SEQ ID NO: 3) or Gr1B (SEQ ID NO:5).

25. (New) A method for identifying products that inhibit the reaction of decatenation of catenanes of DNA comprising contacting a test sample with a topoisomerase IV, wherein the topoisomerase IV is capable of being obtained from the expression of a nucleotide sequence chosen from:

(a) all or part of the gr1A gene (SEQ ID NO:4) or all or part of the gr1B gene (SEQ ID NO:6);  
(b) sequences hybridizing with all or part of the gr1A gene (SEQ ID NO:4) or gr1B gene (SEQ ID NO:6) that encode a subunit of a topoisomerase IV; and

(c) sequences derived from the sequences of (a) or (b) because of the degeneracy of the genetic code; and wherein the topoisomerase IV exhibits the enzymatic activity of Gr1A (SEQ ID NO: 3) or Gr1B (SEQ ID NO:5).

26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the topoisomerase IV has the behavior of a primary target towards the fluoroquinolones.

27. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the topoisomerase IV has the behavior of a primary target towards the fluoroquinolones.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
[www.finnegan.com](http://www.finnegan.com)